



HOLLISTER POLICE DEPARTMENT

PRESS RELEASE

#10-023

Hollister Police Identify Robbery Suspects

HOLLISTER, CALIFORNIA – *April 19, 2010* – The Hollister Police Department has identified the four suspects accused of participating in two armed robberies on Saturday, April 17, 2010.

At about 4:55 p.m. on Saturday, April 17, two suspects armed with firearms entered the Mi Ranchito Market, 1001 San Juan Road, and demanded money from the clerk. After receiving the cash, the suspects fled the store.

Then, about seven minutes later, three suspects, two of whom were armed with firearms, went to the Plaza 156 Gas Station, 1615 San Juan Road and demanded money from the clerk. Along with cash, the suspects stole beer. The suspects fled the area westbound in a black Honda.

San Benito County Sheriff's Deputy Rich Brown observed the suspect vehicle on Highway 156 and followed it into Monterey County, where a pursuit was initiated. The California Highway Patrol and Monterey County Sheriff Deputies took over the pursuit. The suspects drove to the City of Salinas, where the pursuit ended in a collision with a building and an uninvolved, unoccupied parked vehicle.

The suspect vehicle had four occupants. One of the occupants, a passenger, was fatally injured in the collision. A second occupant was airlifted to a Bay Area hospital for medical attention. The two others were treated for minor injuries and then arrested.

Because the initial incidents occurred in Hollister, the Hollister Police Department is the lead investigative agency. Hollister Police detectives arrested the two suspects not hospitalized on Saturday.

The first suspect is identified as 19-year-old Roberto Silva, of Salinas. He has been booked into the San Benito County Jail, charged with one count of murder and two counts of robbery. Bail has been set at \$1,100,000.

The second suspect is a 17-year-old male juvenile, also of Salinas. He has been booked into the San Benito County Juvenile Hall, charged with one count of murder and two counts of robbery. There is no bail.

The third suspect was arrested on Monday, April 19, 2010, after he was released from the hospital. He is identified as Omar Medrano, 18, of Salinas. He will be booked at the San Benito County Jail, also charged with one count of murder and two counts of robbery.

The fourth suspect is deceased. He is identified as 18-year-old Jesus Hernandez of Salinas.

This incident is still under investigation. The Hollister Police Department would like to acknowledge and thank the San Benito County Sheriff's Office, the Monterey County Sheriff's Office, the Salinas Police Department, the California Highway Patrol, the San Benito County District Attorney's Office, and the San Jose Police Department for their valuable assistance.

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Anyone with information regarding this incident is requested to contact Detective David Anderson at 636-4330. Persons wishing to remain anonymous may call **WeTIP** at **(800) 78-CRIME**. Information provided to **WeTIP** may qualify for a Reward.

Prepared by: Sgt. Dave Westrick

Approved by: Jeff Miller, Chief of Miller

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